

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P024368W0	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 01/ 01488	International filing date (day/month/year) 02/04/2001	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 03/04/2000
Applicant HYJOIN LIMITED et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 6 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☒ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1
☐ None of the figures.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/SA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-14,25-28,30-34

A gasket with a gripping portion and a sealing portion which are formed integrally

2. Claims: 15-24

A gasket with locating means comprised of a plurality of protrusions which are not gripping means and which are not necessarily formed integrally with the gasket

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/SA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 29,35

Claims 29 and 35 both refer in a vague manner to the drawings and hence are not clear under Article 6 PCT and no meaningful search is possible for these claims.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/01488

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F16J15/06 F16L23/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F16J F16L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	DE 17 62 329 U (HANS ZILLER) 27 February 1958 (1958-02-27) page 3, line 21 -page 4, line 17; figure 4 ---	1,2,7,8, 12 4,5
X A	US 3 355 057 A (A.P. MACKENZIE & C. KROENER) 28 November 1967 (1967-11-28) column 2, line 35 -column 2, line 49; figure 1 ---	1,2 4,5
X	DE 19 53 035 U (HERAEUS HOCHVAKUUM GMBH) 5 January 1967 (1967-01-05) page 8, line 2 -page 8, line 8; figures 1-6 ---	1-3,6
X	US 5 992 595 A (ADACHI KENRO ET AL) 30 November 1999 (1999-11-30) column 4, line 53 -column 5, line 2; figures 6A,6B --- -/--	15-19,24



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 July 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/08/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Donnelly, C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/01488

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 145 219 A (BABUDER GERALD A) 8 September 1992 (1992-09-08) column 6, line 6 -column 6, line 19; figures 5-8 ----	15-21, 23,24
A	EP 0 070 968 A (LEYBOLD HERAEUS GMBH & CO KG) 9 February 1983 (1983-02-09) abstract; figures 1-6 ----	1,7,8
A	DE 72 44 501 U (FA. R. BRAND) 1 March 1973 (1973-03-01) figures 1,2 -----	30-34

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/01488

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 1762329 U		NONE	
US 3355057 A	28-11-1967	NONE	
DE 1953035 U		NONE	
US 5992595 A	30-11-1999	JP 11091392 A JP 11099842 A	06-04-1999 13-04-1999
US 5145219 A	08-09-1992	NONE	
EP 0070968 A	09-02-1983	DE 3129181 A	03-02-1983
DE 7244501 U		NONE	